

Monoclonal Antibody Therapy (mAb) for Treating COVID-19



Monoclonal Antibody Therapy, or mAb for short, is a treatment for COVID-19. It is not a cure for COVID-19, but it may lessen your symptoms and help keep you out of the hospital.

When you are sick, your body makes antibodies on its own to fight the illness. Monoclonal antibodies are made in a lab. They act like our own antibodies. They are the extra help your body needs to fight the COVID-19 virus.

The most current information about mAb eligibility and treatment may be found on [covidLINK](#).

How To Get Treatment:



Step 1

Test positive for COVID-19 with symptoms starting in the last 10 days **or** have a COVID-19 exposure in the past 4 days



Step 2

Get a referral from a health care provider, who will assess your eligibility and refer you to an infusion center

Where Treatment Is Available:

There are dozens of monoclonal antibody treatment facilities in Maryland. Your healthcare provider will refer you to a facility based on availability.

If you do not have a healthcare provider, contact [eVisit](#) to schedule a virtual appointment or complete a [self-referral form](#). If it is determined you are eligible, you will be referred to an infusion site for treatment.

For those without internet access or a healthcare provider, please contact the Maryland Department of Health at 410-649-6122 (Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). You may ask to speak with a clinician, who will review your eligibility for monoclonal antibody treatment. If you are eligible, they will either schedule you for infusion treatment at one of the state sites or refer you to another site based on your location.

Who Is Eligible?

You may be eligible for **monoclonal antibody treatment** if you recently had a positive COVID-19 test, whether or not you have been vaccinated against COVID-19, and meet the following criteria:

- Are within 10 days of first experiencing symptoms
- Do not need to be hospitalized for COVID-19 treatment
- Weigh at least 88 pounds and are 12 years old or older
- Are in one of the following high risk categories:
 - Are age 55 to 64 AND have cardiovascular disease, hypertension, chronic respiratory diseases or COPD
 - Have diabetes, obesity, kidney disease or other serious chronic conditions
 - Are 65 years old or older
 - Are pregnant
 - For adolescents: high BMI, sickle cell disease, heart disease, neurodevelopmental disorders, a medical-related technological dependence, asthma or other chronic respiratory disease
 - Or have been determined by a healthcare provider to be at high risk for worsening and/or hospitalization



In addition, you may be eligible for **post-exposure prevention** if you have been exposed in the past four days to a known or suspected case of COVID-19 and are in one of the following categories:

- Are not fully vaccinated
- Are vaccinated but not expected to have an adequate immune response to the vaccine
- Are in a congregate living situation such as a nursing home or prison



Please note that monoclonal antibody treatment is not a substitute for vaccination.

What Should I Expect?

You will get the treatment by an IV or an injection under the skin. Treatment can take up to an hour. Medical staff will then watch over you for another hour. It is rare, but you could have an allergic reaction or other side effect.

Right now, there is no cost to you for the drug. There may be some cost for giving you the treatment. Your insurance may pay these fees.

For [FAQs on Monoclonal Antibody Treatment](#) for COVID-19, visit covidLINK.maryland.gov.